Is a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID card right for you?

The rules are changing for driver's licenses and state ID cards, and you may have a choice to make.

Michigan residents boarding a plane for domestic travel in the United States or entering certain federal facilities, military bases and nuclear power plants **must present a REAL ID-compliant document beginning Oct. 1, 2020**.

YES

NO



A REAL ID-compliant license or state ID is the right choice if:

- You need a driver's license or state ID that is accepted for:
 - Boarding a plane for domestic travel.
 - Entering certain federal facilities, military bases and nuclear power plants.





You may not need a REAL ID-compliant license or state ID if you:

- ✓ Do not fly and do not plan to enter certain federal facilities, military bases and nuclear power plants beginning Oct. 1, 2020.
- ✓ Have another REAL ID-compliant document such as a valid U.S. passport. The Transportation Security Administration website provides a complete list of REAL ID-compliant documents.

What does a REAL ID-compliant license or ID look like?

A star in a gold circle will be printed on your license or ID card to show compliance. Enhanced licenses and enhanced ID cards, which already meet the REAL ID federal standards, have the American flag printed on them instead of the star.

When does the REAL ID law take effect?
Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, Michigan
driver's licenses and ID cards must be
REAL ID-compliant for use when flying
domestically. Other documents, such as a
valid U.S. passport, are also accepted under
the law. Visit the Transportation Security
Administration website for a complete list.

How do I apply for a REAL ID-compliant card?

Visit a Secretary of State office and bring:

- A certified U.S. birth certificate with a stamp or raised seal, OR
- A valid, unexpired U.S. passport or passport card, OR
- An approved citizenship or legal presence document.
- If your present name is different from what is shown on any of your documents, you will need to bring proof of the name change, such as a marriage certificate, divorce decree or court order. Multiple documents may be needed if your name has changed multiple times.
- Your glasses or contacts if they are used for driving.

A new photograph will be taken and any applicable fees will be charged.

Is there a charge for a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID card?

No, there is no extra fee for a REAL ID-compliant license or ID card. The only fees due will be the regular fees associated with the transaction, whether you are renewing, replacing a lost or stolen card, applying for a duplicate card or updating your name or address.

Am I required to have a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or state ID card?

No, you are not required to obtain a REAL ID-compliant card. Your standard license or ID card will have "Not for Federal Identification" printed on it to show that it is not compliant. After Oct. 1, 2020, if you fly domestically or enter certain federal facilities, military bases or nuclear power plants, you will have to bring an acceptable alternative form of documentation, such as a valid U.S. passport.



Why did Congress enact REAL ID?

The federal REAL ID standards for driver's licenses and ID cards were created in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks based on recommendations from the 9/11 Commission.

REAL ID sets document and security protocols for the production of driver's licenses and ID cards, including the use of features to prevent illegal copying or altering. It also helps protect against fraud and misuse by requiring people to verify their Social Security number, identity, residency, and citizenship or legal presence when applying for a license or ID card.

Proof of U.S. citizenship or legal presence

Michigan birth certificates are available for a fee from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Photocopies or faxes will not be accepted. If your name is now different from your birth name, please bring proof of the name change, such as a marriage license, divorce decree or court action.

If you are not a U.S. citizen, the documents verifying your legal presence are different than those required for a U.S. citizen.

Please visit the Secretary of State website at **www.mi.gov/sos** for a list of approved legal presence documents and requirements; search for the "SOS-428" form.

Quick Tips:

- If you have an enhanced driver's license or an enhanced state ID, you already have a REAL ID-compliant card and do not need to apply for one.
- A REAL ID-compliant license or ID cannot be used to cross borders into the United States like an enhanced license or an enhanced state ID.
- You may apply for a REAL ID-compliant license or ID card at anytime by visiting your Secretary of State office. If you choose not to get a REAL ID-compliant card, your standard Michigan driver's license remains valid for driving, and a standard license or state ID may be used as identification for cashing checks, renting vehicles, purchasing alcohol and tobacco or entering casinos.
- There is no extra fee for a REAL ID-compliant card if you apply when renewing. A duplicate card fee will be charged if you apply for a REAL ID-compliant card at any other time.
- Make sure to bring your certified U.S. birth certificate with a stamp or raised seal, or a valid, unexpired U.S. passport or passport card.
- If you do not have a REAL ID-compliant license or ID card by Oct. 1, 2020, you will need to present another form of accepted documentation to fly domestically.

REAL ID AND YOU Your guide to understanding

Your guide to understanding the new rules about driver's licenses and ID cards



— Important information —

There's a new type of license and ID card.
It's called "REAL ID."
Do you need one?

Look inside to discover more!



Michigan Secretary of State